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WHEN POLLEN ATTACKS

It may be spring, but that doesn't mean it's all sunshine and rainbows. Thanks to a brutally long winter, the pollen is packing an extra punch this year, and your body is taking the hit. 4-6

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5 THINGS TO KNOW

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

MORGAN ROUSSEAU, MANAGING EDITOR

I grew up in the country, where flowers and trees bloomed. A beautiful sight, but there was a dark side: I was asthmatic, and these gorgeous plants released allergens that made it feel impossible to breathe. I remember opening our refrigerator on grueling days (there was no A/C in the country — we kept our windows open) and breathing in the fresh, clean, cold air for relief. Now, years later, living in New York City, I'm glad to say that my allergies have somewhat improved. But the suffering of millions continues as pollen wreaks havoc on the Northeast. Find out why it's happening and what to do about it on pages 4 and 6.

1 COMPANIES' PAYMENTS TO TRUMP LAWYER RELEASED

An attorney for porn star Stormy Daniels said he has additional evidence linking a Russian businessman to President Donald Trump's personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, as international and U.S. companies on Wednesday acknowledged large payments to Cohen's consulting firm. Swiss drugmaker Novartis AG and U.S. telecommunications company AT&T Inc. said they made payments to Cohen's firm, Essential Consultants, in efforts to gain intelligence into the Trump administration's thinking on issues affecting them. Novartis and AT&T said they were contacted by the office of special counsel Robert Mueller about the situation in late 2017, and provided all the information requested. Both companies said they now consider the matter closed. A senior official at Novartis told NBC News that Cohen reached out shortly after Trump's November 2016 election win "promising access" to the new administration. Payments to the companies "may well have been used to influence the president of the United States, using Michael Cohen and his shell company as a conduit," Sen. Richard Blumenthal said at a news conference.

2 AMERICANS FREED BY N. KOREA THANK TRUMP

North Korea released three American prisoners and handed them over to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Wednesday, clearing a major obstacle to an unprecedented summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. The men, who were freed after Pompeo met Kim, were on their way home aboard the chief U.S. diplomat's plane, and Trump said he would greet them when they arrived at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington on Thursday morning. "We would like to express our deep appreciation to the United States government, President Trump, Secretary Pompeo, and the people of the United States for bringing us home," the three said in a statement released by the State Department as their plane stopped over in Alaska. "We thank God, and all our families and friends who prayed for us and for our return. God Bless America, the greatest nation in the world." The release, praised by the White House as a "gesture of goodwill," appeared to signal an effort by Kim to set a more favorable tone for the summit and followed his recent pledge to suspend missile tests and shut a nuclear bomb test site.

3 DAILY LIFE IN TEHRAN AFTER IRAN DEAL IS DUMPED BY UNITED STATES

Iranians burn American flags during an anti-U.S. demonstration outside the former U.S. embassy headquarters in Tehran, Iran, on Wednesday. President Donald Trump pulled out of the 2015 deal that put limits on Iran's nuclear program in exchange for rapprochement with the West.

GETTY IMAGES

4 ISRAEL: IRANIAN FORCES IN SYRIA SHELL ISRAELI BASES

Iranian forces in Syria shelled Israeli army outposts on Thursday but caused no casualties, the Israeli military said, and the Syrian military was later quoted as saying its air defenses had confronted Israeli rocket fire on its territory. It came a night after Syria accused Israel of striking one of its military bases south of Damascus, an attack that a war monitor said killed 15 people including eight Iranians. Israel's military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Conricus said Israel had retaliated for the attack on its outposts in the strategic Golan Heights plateau, which it partly occupies, without elaborating. Syrian state media, citing a military source on the incident, also did not elaborate. Earlier, state news agency SANA and a war monitor reported artillery fire from Israeli-held territory at Baath City in Quneitra province. The war monitor, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said rockets were fired at military positions of the Syrian army and allied forces in Baath City. The late-night incident followed a surge in tensions between Israel and Syria, where Iranian and Lebanese Hezbollah forces have been helping Damascus beat back a seven-year-old rebellion.

5 WHITE HOUSE REVIEWS DRONE REGULATIONS

The U.S. Transportation Department has sent two proposed rules to the White House to regulate the increased use of unmanned aerial vehicles, the agency said on Wednesday as it prepared to unveil the winners of new drone pilot projects. One of the new rules would allow drones to fly over people while the other would allow for remote identification and tracking of unmanned aircraft in flight. After both are formally proposed, it would take months or even more than a year before they are finalized. Current rules prohibit nighttime drone flights or operations over people without a waiver from the Federal Aviation Administration. The FAA has no requirements or voluntary standards for electrically broadcasting information to identify an unmanned aircraft. Several incidents around major airports have involved drones getting close to aircraft. The National Transportation Safety Board said in December a September collision between a small civilian drone and a U.S. Army helicopter was caused by the drone operator's failure to see the helicopter because he was intentionally flying the drone out of visual range.

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Unusually large quantities of pollen grains in the air are causing a worse than usual bout of seasonal allergies across the East Coast this year. COURTESY OF THE ASTHMA CENTER

'Tis the season of runny noses: Pollen dump sickens locals

One of the coldest Aprils in recent memory led trees to start spewing out more pollen faster than ever this year.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Waking up with a scratchy throat. Sneezing. Dry, hacking coughs. Suffering from itchy eyes and nasal drip and severe sinus headaches that cause feelings of intense pressure. Most people suffer from seasonal allergies, but this year has been especially bad: Experts confirm that erratic temperatures and a steep escalation of hot weather has caused a massive tree pollen dump that may make this year's round of seasonal allergies the worst in recent memory.

7,000

The Philly area's pollen count peaked on May 4, with 7,000 pollen grains per cubic meter of air.

"It's really bad right now," said Dr. Dvorin of The Asthma Center, a New Jersey-based medical practice with offices in Philadelphia. "This year is definitely a worse year, no doubt about it. People are complaining."

Pollen counts peaked in Dvorin's area on Friday, May 4, with an astonishing 7,000 pollen grains per cubic meter of air. As of May 9, that number was around 2,000, still considered an "extreme" level of pollen. (Less than a 100 count of tree pollen is considered normal.) He said that within 10 days, he expects pollen levels to go lower, but we won't be back to normal for a long time, as other species continue releasing pollen due to warm weather.

Recent reports show that, nationwide, April 2018 was overall one of the coldest Aprils in 20 years. It was the coldest April since 1997, and the 13th coldest April in recorded U.S. history, meteorologists said. So instead of trees gradually releasing their pollen over the course of the month, pollen began dumping out of trees in late April and early May as temperatures rose precipitously.

"We really had a very strange season," Dvorin said. "March was strange, we had some warming, then we had all that bad snowy weather that shut everything down, that shut down the trees. April warmed up and everything came out at once."

Odds are, you've experienced some of the symptoms of high pollen already this spring. While most people experience a few symptoms annually, 2018 has seen complaints from people who experience worse symptoms than usual for what seems like longer periods that normal. Even sleeping with the windows open isn't safe and can lead to inhaling quantities of pollen overnight that leave you waking up with a scratchy throat.

"I had somebody with a really bad cough this morning — I had to give them all kinds of treatments to calm their cough down, so it is worse," Dvorin said. "I had a patient who walked outside around 8 o'clock in the morning and instantly started sneezing and getting watery eyes."

This abnormally severe pollen season is the result of trees, which only release pollen above a temperature of about 40 degrees.

"It delays the pollinating response of the tree with a very rapid drop in the temperature. Trees are very adaptable and they know how to shut down," Dvorin said. "It's much more severe this year. When I looked at my pollen levels from last year, they're much lower at this stage in May."

Read more about the increased levels of pollen on page 6.

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What is pollen? The ultimate springtime question answered

Happy spring!

SAM BRODSKY
Samantha.Brodsky@metro.us

Spring has sprung and, as a result, so has pollen.

The allergic reaction to pollen is known as hay fever. According to the CDC, based on a 2016 survey over a 12-month period, 16 million adults in the U.S. were diagnosed with it.

So what is pollen, anyway? Pollen, also called flower sperm, is a fine powder of microspores produced by male plants that enables fertilization. It's easily dispersed by the wind, and according to Live Science, a cubic meter of air can contain thousands of pollen grains.

The pollen we associate with springtime allergies is carried by the wind. It's called anemophilous pollen and mainly comes from trees, weeds and grasses, whereas pollen collected by insects is referred to as entomophilous.

WHAT ARE SYMPTOMS OF THE POLLEN ALLERGY?

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) states the following symptoms of pollen allergy:

- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Itchy nose, eyes, ear and mouth
- Stuffy nose
- Red and watery eyes
- Swelling around the eyes.

HOW TO PREVENT OR REDUCE AN ALLERGIC REACTION TO POLLEN VIA THE AAFA

The AAFA suggests limiting your exposure to the outdoors, keeping windows closed when pollen counts are high and taking allergy medicine like antihistamines and decongestants prior to pollen season (better start now if you haven't). It also suggests bathing daily to rinse off any pollen that may have collected on your skin and hair while outdoors, as well as washing sheets at least once a week.

Though pollen may be in the air, nothing can tame this spring fever. Go forth into the warmth, and try to enjoy the sunshine you deserve!

WHY AM I ALLERGIC TO POLLEN

Susan Waserman, professor of medicine at Canada's McMaster University, told Live Science that we often become allergic to things we've been exposed to as children — one of these being pollen.

"If you've got that genetic tendency to become sensitized, the huge amount of pollen you breathe in and out can easily lead to sensitization," Waserman explained.

Some doctors say that the onset of allergies can occur from fighting a virus — such as the common cold — at the same time you're exposed to an allergen. "It's entirely plausible that when the body is mounting a big immune response to a virus, that you're going to trigger an allergic response to something you're exposed to at the same time," Waserman said, adding that this isn't entirely proven.

This abnormally severe pollen season is the result of trees, which only release pollen above a temperature of about 40 degrees. COURTESY OF THE ASTHMA CENTER

Everything you need to know to fight Philly's increased pollen levels

As the Philadelphia area experiences more seasonal pollen than it normally does, allergy sufferers can follow some easy steps to keep breathing and enjoying life.

– Changing clothes when you get home at the end of the day, changing shoes and taking a shower to eliminate excess pollen.

– Check local pollen counts on websites like the Asthma Center. If the numbers are high, avoid going out before 10 a.m.

– If those steps don't help, Dvorin recommended two newer medicines for seasonal allergy sufferers that he said beat the older versions: XHANCE, a new nasal spray, and Ryvent, an antihistamine.

SAM NEWHOUSE

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These trees have been responsible for the most tree pollen in the Philadelphia/South Jersey area, Dr. Dvorin said.

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Lawyer convicted of charter school scam involving Fattah Jr.

The Philly-area attorney behind the charter school scam that got Chaka Fattah Jr. locked up was convicted in federal court.

$2.1 m
In 2014-15, Delaware Valley High School got some $2.1 million in School District funding.

$75,000
Fattah Jr. was reportedly earning roughly $75,000 annually.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

A Philadelphia-area attorney and accountant was convicted of embezzlement this week for running a charter school scam that also brought down the scion of one of Philly's formerly most powerful political families.

David T. Shulick was convicted by a jury in federal court on May 7 of embezzling some $800,000 from the School District of Philadelphia using a charter school he ran, intended to help at-risk students. Instead, Shulick, with the aid of Chaka Fattah Jr., falsified paperwork and faked student enrollments to inflate the budget of a school and enrich themselves, federal prosecutors said.

Fattah Jr. previously got a sentence of five years prison time in 2016 for charges related to the Delaware Valley High School (DVHS) scam, after a trial at which he represented himself.

His father, ex-Philly Congressman Chaka Fattah, was later convicted of corruption a year later for an unrelated campaign fundraising scam/fraud and got a 10-year sentence in prison.

During his trial, Fattah Jr. laid all the blame for misuse of funds at on Shulick's shoulders. But in fact, federal prosecu-

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David T. Shulick was convicted by a jury in federal court on May 7 of embezzling some $800,000 from the School District of Philadelphia. PROVIDED

tors revealed they got the information to indict Fattah Jr. when he attempted to inform federal authorities about the inner workings of Shulick's scam, in what was allegedly an attempt to sideline his employer and set up a similar school scam himself.

Evidence at trial showed that DVHS hired Fattah Jr. as a consultant to meet a state requirement for 10 percent of the contract to be awarded to a minority business. From 2014-15, the school got some $2.1 million in funding from the School District, and Fattah Jr. was reportedly earning roughly $75,000 annually. Shulick was also convicted of conspiring with Fattah Jr. to perpetrate the fraud.

U.S. Attorney William McSwain said Shulick got the funding by "promising to provide at-risk students with a level of guidance counseling for their needs, psychological support services, and school security," with a "decent wage" for teachers.

"He flagrantly broke all these promises," McSwain said in a statement. "Instead, he took money specifically allocated for these laudable purposes and spent it selfishly on himself."

DVHS reportedly falsified paperwork reporting the numbers of students and employees they had to get more taxpayer money, but Shulick and Fattah Jr. used the money to enrich themselves. Federal prosecutors said Shulick faked business expenses to cheat on taxes and listed nannies and housekeepers as employees of the school, while using the profits to renovate his vacation home on the Shore and installing a $9,000 set of speakers in his Gladwyne home

"He used his business like a personal piggy bank and a pass- through to hide his income and expenses from the IRS," McSwain said. "When it comes to education, my office has zero tolerance for fraud."

Shulick could face prison time at sentencing and is expected to be ordered to pay significant restitution to the School District.

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Trump practiced for Mueller interview with his legal team. It did not go well

He only got through two questions about the Russia investigation in four hours.

MICHAEL MARTIN
letters@metro.us

President Donald Trump and his legal team recently did a four-hour practice session for a potential interview with special counsel Robert Mueller about the Russia investigation, and the president had some difficulty, only getting through two questions.

Trump had trouble staying on topic "given the frequent interruptions on national-security matters along with Mr. Trump's loquaciousness," the Wall Street Journal reported, citing "one person familiar with the matter."

"Anyone can see [Trump] has great difficulty staying on a subject."

An insider, speaking to The Wall Street Journal

The president's lawyers have set a deadline of May 17 — one year since Mueller's appointment — to decide whether the president will submit to an interview in the Russia investigation, the Journal said. Trump's legal team now includes Emmet Flood, who represented Bill Clinton during his impeachment proceedings, and former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani. Trump's previous lawyers Ty Cobb and John Dowd left the building last month and the month before that, respectively.

Giuliani came aboard explaining that he would handle "negotiations" for an interview between Trump and Mueller. Those seem to have run aground. On Monday, Giuliani said

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The president's lawyers have set a deadline of May 17 — one year since Mueller's appointment — to decide whether the president will submit to an interview. GETTY IMAGES

that their preferred format for an interview — a list of written questions and responses — had been rejected by Mueller.

CBS News reported Monday that Giuliani says his team wants a list of subjects that would be covered, a time limit and an assurance on whether the content would be made public. If an agreement can't be reached and Trump is subpoenaed, Giuliani said Trump would fight the subpoena to the Supreme Court.

Trump has repeatedly said that he wants to talk with Mueller. His lawyers are eager for him not to, given the president's issues with truth-telling and focus. "Anyone can see [Trump] has great difficulty staying on a subject," an insider told the Journal.

Giuliani has said that Trump would not have to respond to a subpoena. Legal experts have argued that United States v. Nixon, in which the Supreme Court ruled that President Richard Nixon had to comply with a subpoena for his Oval Office tapes, as precedent that a president must obey a subpoena.

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Weight loss and relationships: Not always a match made in heaven

Study shows weight loss can lead to more confidence — and a breakup.

MEAGAN MORRIS
letters@metro.us

Weight loss is often a positive step toward a healthy — and longer — life. However, it doesn't always bode well for relationships, at least according to a recent study by Swedish researchers.

According to the study, obese people who went through weight loss surgery were twice as likely to get into a relationship as peers who only received weight loss advice. However, the study also found that obese people in long-term relationships and had weight loss surgery were 28 percent more likely to break up or divorce than peers who didn't have surgery.

Why weight loss and relationships don't always mix

The study results — taken from data published in the Swedish Obese Subjects Study and the Scandinavian Obesity Surgery Registry — aren't surprising to many obesity and relationship experts. Weight loss can help increase confidence and overall happiness, but it can also shake the foundation of relationships built when one (or both) partners are heavy.

"Sometimes, partners are threatened by the weight loss and that jealousy can cause problems," David Sarwer, director of the Center for Obesity Research and Education at Temple University's College of Public Health, told the Los Angeles Times.

"I was dating a heavy girl who I was really into. She was sexy, and we had a great time together. Then, she got weight-loss surgery. She could no longer drink,

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and she had to eat teeny-tiny meals," one man told Thrillist of life after his partner had surgery. "Losing weight seemed to make her happy, but our relationship dissolved because we couldn't go out and have fun together anymore."

And the newfound confidence — and lifestyle changes — can magnify cracks in a relationship.

"I loved going out to parties, and I wanted Jonathan [her husband] to come with me," Melanie Slinger told the Daily Mail of her life after losing a large amount of weight.

"But he wanted to stay at home, sitting in front of the television — just as we had always done in the past," she continued. "Our rows grew increasingly bitter. He was jealous of the fact that I was going out — and I resented the fact that he didn't want me to enjoy my new-found confidence."

Slinger's weight loss eventually led to a divorce.

HOW TO LOSE WEIGHT AND SAVE A RELATIONSHIP

Weight loss and relationships don't have to be oil and water.

"The problem is that unlike losing a job or experiencing the death of a child, many people don't recognize drastic weight loss as a life-changing event, and therefore are not prepared for the changes it brings about," Armando Gonzalez, a relationship and family therapist also known as Dr. Mondo, wrote on his website.

Communication — about feelings and resentments — is key. "As I like to say, 'It's a season, not a sentence' — meaning, while your relationships will go through a period of transformation, it doesn't mean they will be ruined forever."

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Beer, bars and babies — do they mix? ISTOCK

the GRUMBLE

Pat King
Metro Reporter

Strollers in bars are a buzzkill!

One of life's greatest joys is slipping down to the neighborhood watering hole after a tough day to help you, well, forget about life altogether. It's a rite of passage. Sitting with your friends or coworkers with a couple cold ones at is a right that you've earned and is one of the best ways to help you get over the waking nightmare that has been your workweek.

Until you find yourself crashing into a fleet of bulky strollers after ordering a round and watching as your fresh can of Tecate and tequila shot combo go crashing to the floor. Oh, the horror!

So the question is: Why do parents who bring strollers into bars have to be such buzzkills? We get that losing your favorite happy hour after you've had a child is a tough thing to deal with. But why ruin it for the rest of us?

Besides, I'm sure your baby is not going to appreciate me choosing 10 Thin Lizzy songs in a row on the jukebox nestled in the corner. So why even bother carting that stroller in?

VENT TO US!
GRUMBLE@METRO.US

@MOREKOWBEL
There should be a rule that you're not allowed to bring newborns/strollers into bars. Specifically ones that have "beer" in their name.

@ALEX_PULSONE
There were strollers in the bars today with music so loud you couldn't hear people talk.....why are you doing that to your child .....

@DRHASTINGS
ATTN: PARK SLOPE: THERE IS A SPOOKED STAMPEDE OF DOUBLE WIDE STROLLERS. DO NOT SEEK REFUGE IN BARS. THEY'VE LEARNED TO GO IN BARS.

@GOCHRISSYGO
I'm all for the drinking, but baby strollers in bars are sooo in my way

@ANGERMONKEY
GAH, so many babies lately. Babies babies babies. On social media and in my bars. Blocking things with giant strollers. BABIES: WHY?

@SMELLMANDA
Strollers don't belong in bars!!

Tell us what you think!
@metrophilly

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Hello, strollers! These take up valuable real estate in already-crowded bars and restaurants. ISTOCK

There's a time and a place for baby strollers, and the bar ain't one of them. ISTOCK

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metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Don't get angry when you should get moving. It's up to you to take care of your responsibilities and to protect your position and reputation. Finish what you start.

Taurus Gather as much information as possible. Knowledge is power, and being able to use what you learn to your advantage will bring you closer to the success.

Gemini Get your facts straight before you voice your opinion. An emotional situation will escalate if you let someone from your past interfere in your personal life. Truth matters.

Cancer Share your insight and offer suggestions. Get involved in activities or events that will expand your association with people sharing your beliefs or heading down a similar path.

Leo Observation will help you get to know and understand your peers better. Discovering what others have to offer will put you in a good position. Prepare for an unexpected change.

Virgo Travel, conferences, trade shows and communications are all favored. Let your intuition guide you when dealing with peers or people you can learn something from. Someone you least expect will disappoint you.

Libra Domestic problems will surface. Added responsibilities will get to you, and criticism and demands will lead to a dispute. Take a break, relax and focus on personal growth.

Scorpio Sign up for something artistic, unusual or entertaining. The diversion will do you good and give you plenty to think about. Be open to trying something new.

Sagittarius A change will do you good. Make plans with a good friend or get together with colleagues to talk shop. Networking and focusing on getting ahead is encouraged.

Capricorn Apply your skills to accommodate new trends or look for diverse ways to use your services and attributes. Offering something unique will drum up interest and opportunity.

Aquarius Don't let anyone talk you into taking on too much or coax you into doing something that is not good for you. Bad habits will be difficult to break.

Pisces Use your imagination when it comes to money matters. An opportunity to invest in something unique will result in personal gains and growth. Someone close to you will be evasive or disappoint you. EUGENIA LAST

THE NEXT BIG THING ON NETFLIX

While making "Evil Genius," the directors uncovered new information that only made an already complex case even more intriguing. ALL PHOTOS NETFLIX

The bank robbery that shook America

The death of Brian Wells unfolds like a "parlor game" in "Evil Genius," the next great true-crime doc.

GREGORY WAKEMAN
Gregory.Wakeman@metro.us

There's no denying that Netflix dominates the crime-documentary genre.

Hot on the heels of "Making a Murderer," "Amanda Knox," "Wild Wild Country" and "Casting JonBenet," to name a few, is "Evil Genius: The True Story of America's Most Diabolical Bank Heist." The series explores the death of pizza delivery man Brian Wells in August 2003, who robbed a bank with an explosive device strapped to his neck, which then detonated when he was surrounded by police. A former girlfriend, Marjorie Diehl-Armstrong, was convicted in his murder in 2010, but some people who worked the case believe the perpetrator was someone else.

"I basically started to scratch the surface at the time that it happened," says co-director Trey Borzillieri, who spent years interviewing one of the suspects. He lived near Erie, Pennsylvania, where the robbery happened, and says the story got complicated fast.

"Soon after information emerged that there was evidence at the scene that Wells had been put up to do this," he recalls. "That authorities had found a frozen body near the site where Wells had been asked to make the pizza delivery. The FBI was saying that the frozen body wasn't related. But I just had to know more. It became this elusive mystery."

Putting together the story was a challenge, says co-director Barbara Schroeder. "Because of the heist and then the other layers of new information that come out in the film, we could have written it 100 different ways and shown it from a lot of different perspectives," she says.

Each additional piece of information took the case in a new direction, but so far none of them have been the whole story, which the doc is able to tell because in the making of "Evil Genius," new facts were uncovered.

"Up until this series the media, the public, they have heard [only] one side of the story," she says.

"It is kind of eerie as it unfolds," adds Borzillieri. "Because it is like a parlor game. You are like, 'Who is the mastermind? Who wrote the notes?' It is a really interactive and multilayered caper.

"We are really hoping that the viewers, don't just follow along with the story, but can feel it is a participatory journey."

"Evil Genius" is released on Netflix on Friday.

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'Little Women' returns to TV

Daughter of Uma Thurman and Ethan Hawke shines in Mother's Day miniseries debut.

HENRIETTA JONES
letters@metro.us

Hawke stars in the BBC adaptation of "Little Women" as Jo March.
ALL PHOTOS RAHOUL GHOSE/PBS

Maya Hawke illuminates the screen in her debut as Jo in "Little Women," Masterpiece's new miniseries based on the book by Louisa May Alcott. Set against the backdrop of the Civil War, the three-episode series is a coming-of-age drama about the once-wealthy March family and their four daughters.

"Little Women" has always been narrative comfort food, with dozens of film and TV adaptations made of the novel (including a ballet and opera). However, the Masterpiece miniseries, airing Sunday, brings a deeper interpretation to what is often served up as a saccharine story.

In this adaptation, the March sisters, each presented in the opening credits as different flowers blooming together, are given space to develop by director Vanessa Caswill and writer Heidi Thomas.

Beth (Annes Elwy) suffers from crippling shyness; Amy (Kathryn Newton) has a mean streak that would challenge Regina George (making viewers curious how she'll redeem herself in part two, which airs May 20th) and good-girl Meg (Willa Fitzgerald), is given more personality. At one point she even declares, "I get great satisfaction from earning a wage," when snubbed by wealthy neighbor Laurie's English visitors for being a working woman.

Maya Hawke is the daughter of Uma Thurman and Ethan Hawke.

But it is Hawke who dominates the screen as Jo, at once showcasing the character's awkward charm and fiery spirit.

Coincidently, the actress is shooting season three of "Stranger Things" with Winona Ryder, who portrayed Jo in the successful 1994 film adaptation. However, Hawke manages to leave her own mark on the iconic character. Across the three episodes, she pulls off a feat lacking in most dramatic performances today: sincerity.

This earnestness carries over to the chemistry between Jo and Laurie (Jonah Hauer-King). While so many adaptations have mismanaged and romanticized the pair, here their relationship is finally given some much-needed breathing room.

Laurie is infatuated with Jo, but while Jo values their friendship, her focus is always on what gives her purpose: her writing. In one scene, she declines Laurie's pact to travel, turning back to her writing work.

"Castles in the air need keys," she tells Laurie. "And sometimes I dare to think this is mine".

Rounding out the cast is Angela Lansbury, who, at 92, holds court as a formidable, but more accessible Aunt March, while Emily Watson, who gets top billing, portrays a more vulnerable Marmee.

Purists will be frustrated by the narrative liberties taken by the script, but the biggest flaw in "Little Women" is the pacing; at times the series simply struggles to get on with the story. The ongoing seasonal establishing shots, used to show the passage of time, often slow things down instead of moving the story along.

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THINGS TO DO

The Fairy Tree (right) and the Great White Shark Tunnel (bottom left), make their grand debut at the Chinese Lantern Festival this year. Fan favorites like the 200-foot dragon and the pandas will also be there. ALL PHOTOS JEFF FUSCO UNLESS NOTED

4 Reasons to check out the Chinese Lantern Festival

It's a feast for all the senses.

JENNIFER LOGUE
jennifer.logue@metro.us

The Chinese Lantern Festival is back at Franklin Square for the third year in a row — this time running for a full eight weeks. Featuring over 1,500 silk, steel and light creations across 28 different displays, it's the perfect night out for the whole family. From taking in the beauty of the lanterns to enjoying a range of cultural performances (including face changing), here are four reasons why you should pay a visit to the Chinese Lantern Festival for 2018.

The lanterns

The expertly crafted lanterns by Chinese artisans are the stars of the Chinese Lantern Festival, lighting up the night with 15,000 LED lights. New additions this year are a walk-through Great White Shark Tunnel and the world premiere of The Fairy Tree, but old favorites like the 200-foot Dragon and those adorable pandas are back! Be sure to keep your phone charged so you can capture the magic for your Insta.

The performances

Don't leave the Chinese Lantern Festival without visiting the main stage, where performers will be dazzling the crowd every night. Highlights include face-changing (where performers swap out different masks quicker than you can blink!), plate-spinning (acrobats do all sorts of stunts while spinning multiple plates on 3-foot bamboo poles), contortionists and more.

The food

Taking in so much art can definitely make a person hungry, and luckily, attendees at the Chinese Lantern Festival have plenty of yummy options right on the festival grounds. For comfort food galore, Square Burger has a menu of burgers, chicken fingers and milkshakes (the cake shake is an otherworldly experience). Great Lawn Grill will serve up Asian cuisine, with items like chicken satay, Korean meatball, beef bao and mochi ice cream. For more eclectic offerings, visit the Snack Shack at the Shark, for Italian meatballs in marinara, steamed veggie dumplings and more.

Don't leave the festival without a Cake Shake. M. KENNEDY

The drinks

You can also sip as you stroll at the Chinese Lantern Festival. Dragon Beer Garden by Cooperage will be serving up an array of beer, wine and specialty cocktails for adult visitors. Drafts include Yuengling, Leinenkugel, Shandy, Kirin, Sapporo, Downeast Original Cider and Goose Island IPA. Cocktails include the Lantern Lemonade (lemon vodka, lemonade, green tea), Barrel Aged Buddha (barrel aged gin, Campari, sweet vermouth, salt, orange zest) and Year of the Mule (rye whiskey, ginger beer, lemonade).

If you go:

Philadelphia Chinese Lantern Festival
Through June 30
Sunday through Thursday: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Friday and Saturday: 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Adults: $18
Military: $15
Kids: $12
Franklin Square
200 N. 6th St.
historicphiladelphia.org

EAT LIKE AN INSIDER

Kenneth J. McDuffie

This passionate chef is "young and hungry."

JENNIFER LOGUE
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Chef Kenneth J. McDuffie of Young and Hungry Catering has cooked for everyone from hip artist Juelz Santana to Sen. Vincent Hughes to the Philadelphia Eagles to R&B legend Patti LaBelle.

The 35-year-old Philly native officially launched his catering business in 2016, but spent years working his way up the restaurant industry food chain — getting his start at KFC, and then leaving Philly for Hawaii, working for Norwegian Cruise Lines.

He first learned how to cook from his great grandmother, Esther A. Smith.

"She was my mentor, teacher and my coach," he says. "She taught me everything I need to know about cooking."

When asked what he loves about the industry, it's all about the people.

"It's a way to show my craft, and I just love to make people smile and bring them together," he says. "Food is a way to the soul — especially when it's good."

McDuffie gives us the lowdown on where to get the best tacos and margaritas in Philly, as well as where to dive into a healthy helping of wasabi potatoes.

Chef Kenneth J. McDuffie learned to cook from his great grandmother. PROVIDED

Best late-night meal?

City View Pizza and Grill, *(Broad & Olney).* I love this place because the service is amazing, they have great food and because when I don't want to cook, I can always count on them. My favorite dish is the grilled buffalo chicken pizza and their grilled chicken caesar salad. The food is amazing, and my mouth is watering now for a slice or two.

Best meal under $10?

Honey's Sit 'n Eat *(800 N. 4th St.).* I love this place for brunch with my friends — literally everything is good. My favorite food is the reuben, without Swiss cheese. Being BYOB is the cherry on top.

Best-hidden food gem?

Buddakan *(325 Chestnut St.)* This restaurant is a little pricey, but literally the best Asian food I have ever had in my life. Highly recommended! I actually had my birthday dinner here about two years ago. My favorite dish has to be the lamb and the wasabi mashed potatoes.

Best place to dine alone?

Uncle Bobbie's Coffee & Books *(5445 Germantown Ave.)* This is the best new place in Germantown! Beautiful interior and they have a reading corner for adults and children with a lending library. The banana hot chocolate and Danish was worth the recommendation.

Place you always take or recommend for out-of-towners?

Just To Serve You Too *(5132 N. 5th St.)* This place is like going home to Big Momma's house for Sunday dinner. The food is always amazing.

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THEATER

Mrs. Harrison

From Philly playwright, Elle columnist and comedian R. Eric Thomas, this two-woman play features a white, struggling stand-up comedian and a black, successful playwright, whose lives intersect once again during a 10-year college reunion. Through the reunion, they pose questions of "what is truth?" based on events that occurred during their college years.
Through May 20
The Drake, 302 S. Hicks St.
azukatheatre.org
Pay what you decide

'Bring Your Own Mom'

Bring your mom to this performance of "Splinter and Crack" and receive complimentary light bites. The play, by Philly playwright Jessica Bedford, is about the quirky — debatably dysfunctional — dynamics between a successful academic and her adult daughter and son-in-law, who invite a TV celebrity over for a visit, setting off a whirlwind of events.
May 13, 2 p.m.
Hamilton Studios
1025 Hamilton St.
juniper-productions.ticketleap.com

FOOD & DRINK

Collingswood Farmer's Market

The Garden State's growing season is in full swing as "Jersey Fresh" vendors line up between Atlantic and Haddon avenues to vend seasonal produce like asparagus. Also stop by the Amber & Grain table for some German loaves and samples of Inspired Brews Kombucha's locally flavored brews. Come for the produce and good eats; stick around for the people-watching.
May 12, 8 a.m.
Atlantic and Irvin avenues
collingswood.com
Pay as you go

Mother's Day Brunch

Chef Jennifer Salhoff, best known for her participation on reality cooking show "Hell's Kitchen," crafts a special menu for the occasion, with selections like a cast-iron sourdough pancake and a bourguignon hash with tender shredded short rib and a sunny-side-up egg. Plus, a complimentary flute of champagne for all the mothers in attendance.
May 13, 9 a.m.
aMuse, 1421 Arch St.
amusephiladelphia.com
Pay as you go

FOOD & DRINK

9th annual IPA, Rose + Champagne and Block Party

Hawthorne's ninth-annual spring block party boasts more than 60 IPA varieties—plus, noshes from Surf 'N' Turf, Sumpig, Curbside Creamery and Tot Cart. Trinidelphia, a Caribbean steel drum band, will perform, with a "Kids' Zone" set up for the youngsters.
May 12, 12 p.m., Hawthorne's Beer Café
738 S. 11th St., hawthornecafe.com
Pay as you go

Floral Mother's Day Cocktail

The Twisted Tail might be better known for its whiskey and bourbon, but the bar's taking a 180-degree turn for its Mother's Day offering, serving up a "Spring Fever" for the occasion. What's in it: tequila, cachaça, grilled lemon, honey, ginger, basil and purple basil flowers with pepper for garnish. Consider it an apt substitute for the bouquet of flowers for the more boozy moms out there.
May 13
The Twisted Tail
509 S. Second St.
thetwistedtail.com
Pay as you go

MUSEUMS

A Beginner's Workshop to Coding with Games

Franklin Institute educators lead this two-hour workshop that challenges pre-teen-age kids to build a game controller and then use code to create a video game. The program, held in tandem with the Game Masters video game exhibition featuring an arcade and "history of video games" displays, teaches children to use Scratch, a simple programming language.
May 12, 11 a.m.
The Franklin Institute
222 N. 20th St.
fi.edu
$35

Why We Love to Hate Renoir

Before heading with Mom to brunch, swing by this lecture from Renoir expert Martha Lucy, author of Renoir in the Barnes Foundation, who details the relationship between Dr. Barnes and and Renoir, while also teasing out why — bizarrely — the artist remains one of the most sought-after and intriguing while not being well-liked.
May 13, 11:30 a.m.
The Barnes Foundation
2025 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
barnesfoundation.org
$10

COMEDY

Ricky Velez

Velez is a New York-based actor and comic with deadpan joke delivery and a pull-no-punches approach to storytelling. He's appeared on Netflix's "Master of None" and HBO's "Crashing."
May 11, 7:30 p.m.
Punch Line Philly
punchlinephilly.com
$20

MUSIC

Half Noise

Zac Farro, previously the drummer for Paramore, released his second studio album, "Flowerss," earlier this month—showcasing his brand of synth-y and rhythmic psych-pop. Farro's project began as a solo endeavor and only recently evolved into a full band.
May 10, 7:30 p.m.
Boot and Saddle
1131 S. Broad St.
bootandsaddlephilly.com, $15

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE UNDERSIGNED WILL SELL, TO SATISFY THE LIEN OF THE LANDLORD, AT PUBLIC SALE BY COMPETITIVE BIDDING ON MAY 24 ,2018 @11 A.M. LOCKER ROOM SELF STORAGE INC. LOCATED AT 2001 W. ERIE AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19140. THE PERSONAL GOODS STORED IN SPACE NO:
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UNIT: 1267 GILBERT, CHARLES
UNIT: 2048 HOARI, KATTIE
UNIT: 1067 JONES, JOSEPH
UNIT: 2038 MCDERMOTT, CRAIN
UNIT: 3056 MORALES, GILBERT
UNIT: 1055 MYERS, TEIANA
UNIT: 2039 PARKER, JASHEON
UNIT: 2216 PURNELL, TROY
UNIT: 1014 SASS, SHONDA
UNIT: 2111 SASS, SHONDA
UNIT: 2227 STOKES, VENNETTA
UNIT: 1027 THOMAS, KEVIN
UNIT: 2158 THOMAS, MARSHEEDAH
UNIT: 2208 THOMAS, SONOVA
UNIT: 1122 WILLIAMS, LOUTRELL
UNIT: 2068 WILLIAMS, MARKEEM
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LOCKER ROOM SELF-STORAGE, INC. 215-225-8585

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215-922-3715
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: The following self-storage Cube contents containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 456 N. Christopher Columbus Blvd. Philadelphia, PA 19123, to satisfy a lien, on May 24th, 2018 at approx. 11AM at www.storagetreasures.com.
A033 April Romeo, C283 Kadena Smith, G631 Ashley Dugan, B170 George W Ludwig, B217 Charles Pukanecz, E503 Ryan Young
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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on **May 16th, 2018** at **3:15PM** at the Extra Space Storage facility located at: **1553 Grant Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19115, (215) 464-3913.** The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.
189 - Paulina Ozdemir - (Furniture, Household),
24 - Flabious Price - (Household Items),
464 Margarita Toro - (Event Supplies and Fabric),
442 - Marshal Thomson - (Household Items),
133 - Beverly Gavin - (Household Items and Furniture),
32 - Robert Dino Stevens - (House Goods, Furniture)
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The Public Sale or other disposition of the following property will take place (unless otherwise withdrawn) via an on-line auction at **www.storagetreasures.com** on **May 8th, 2018** beginning at approximately 12:00pm and concluding on **May 22nd, 2018** at approximately **12:00pm.** This Public Sale will result in the goods being sold to the highest bidder. Certain terms and conditions apply.
COLLINS, TIMOTHY 2622
CARR CAVINESS, BALA 2620
WOODEN, DANIELLE 2419
HAYES, WILLIAM 2343
MACK, DANIEL 1516
HAYES, SHARON 1305

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction **May 16, 2018** at **4:00 PM** at the storage facility listed below, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: Extra Space Storage **12005 Roosevelt Blvd Philadelphia, PA 19154 215-514-2704.**
#1515 Preston Delucca collectibles, furniture - #F6 Pablo Camacho household goods
#1218 Lance Jenkins furniture, tv - #D18 Gary L. Coleman clothing, personal belongings
#E28 William Gary III household items - #1413 Robert C. Smith furniture household items
#820 Robert C. Smith totes, bins - #D19 William Lowe bags, boxes, clothes
#J12 Austin Bowers couches, tv, dresser, table - #1342 Shawn Caviello fridge, washer, dryer and bins
Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on May 16, 2018 at 9:45 AM at the facility located at: **Extra Space Storage, 2300 Washington Ave, Philadelphia PA 19146, 267-607-5171.** The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but not limited to general household furniture, boxes, clothes and appliances.
2098 Melissa Monts Bags, Shopping cart, Containers; 2168 Tamika Spence chair, TV, bags, table, mirror pillows and suitcase; 3187 Olumide Oduyemi chair, TV boxes, clothes, totes and suitcase; 5170B Thomas Hilton bags, boxes, ironing board and pillows; 5181 Kayla Hansell mattress, table, TV, bags, totes, box spring, and bed frame
Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction **May 16, 2018** at **1:45 PM** at the storage facility listed below, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: Extra Space Storage **116 Fountain St., Philadelphia, PA 19127 267-766-0064.** The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but not limited to general household furniture, boxes, clothes and appliances.
SB004 Michael Mazzoli Jr. unknown; 2144 Jamyra Perry household items; 4010 Angelica Ganier boxes & household items; 3086 Lauren Roop unknown; 3256 Zachary Furlong tv, bed, couch, dresser, clothes; 3022 Clyde Stephen clothes, household goods; 0002 Juliette Ralley household goods; 3096 Princess Michelle Villareal luggage, personal items; SB008 Selvin Purnell tools, furniture; 5095 Steve Nelson tool boxes
Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on May 16, 2018 at 2:30PM at the Extra Space Storage facility located at: **6204 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111, (215)744-1563.** The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.
B200C Roselaure Richard-Duvet (Household Items),
C203C Marrietta Costella Spraggans (Furniture),
E116 Miles Nutter (House Goods), E138 John E. Bassaner (Boxes & Tools).
Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

FOOD & DRINK

PROVIDED

Mother's Day Brunch Buffet

The steakhouse treats moms and their company to a brunch buffet featuring deviled eggs, peaches and cream muffins, crab cake benedict, monkey bread, prime rib and—as is necessary for practically any real-deal brunch buffet—an omelet station. Kids 12 and under eat for $15.

May 13, 7 a.m., Urban Farmer,
1850 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
urbanfarmerphiladelphia.com, $65

Chris Botti

Jazz best-seller Chris Botti, who has notched four chart-topping jazz albums and is a multi-Grammy Award winner. He released his last full-length album, Impressions, which featured notable guest vocals from Vince Gil and Andrea Bocelli, in 2012.

May 12, 8 p.m.
Xcite Center
2999 Street Road
parxcasino.com/xcitecenter
$35

SHOPPING

Fifth Annual Warehouse Sale

The ideal opportunity to shop for camping and hiking gear, Philly-based outdoor brand United by Blue's annual sale features heavy discounts on bags, blankets, Tacony socks, vests, boots, hoodies and more. The sale runs all weekend, but those serious about buying a full set of gear will want to show up early on the first day—or snag a "Fast Pass" ahead of time.

Through May 13
United By Blue
205 Race St., unitedbyblue.com
Pay as you go

LGBT

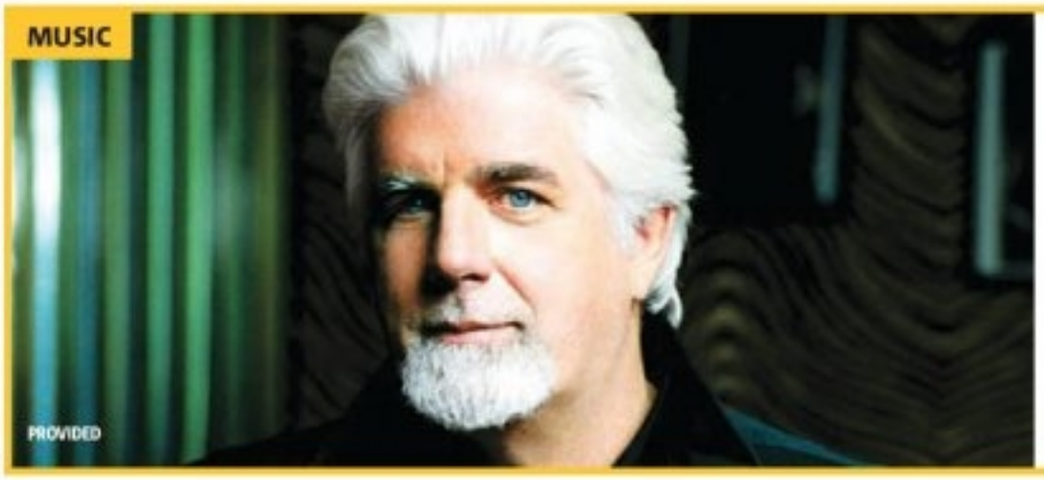
Country Line Dancing

A hidden gem of the city's weekly LGBT events is this country-line-dancing lesson, taught by folks who not only know their way around the dance floor, but are welcoming to newbies. Better yet: Attend the line-dancing lesson and get free admission to the club's upstairs all night.

May 11, 7 p.m.
Woody's Bar
202 S. 13th St.
woodysbar.com
Free

BRANDON BAKER

MUSIC


PROVIDED

Michael McDonald

The legendary singer-songwriter and keyboardist, who got his start with the Doobie Brothers in the '70s and went on to win five Grammy Awards for his work as a solo artist, performs the best of his discography. His last studio album, "Wide Open," released in 2017.

May 11, 9 p.m.
The Music Box at The Borgata
1 Borgata Way, Atlantic City
$69, theborgata.com

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Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on May 16 at 10:30 AM at the facility located at: **Extra Space Storage 4433 Wayne Ave, Philadelphia PA 19144. 267-453-3400.** The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but not limited to general household furniture, boxes, clothes and appliances.

1A13D Gwendolyn M Martin household good; **2A02 Tadreya Leatherbury** couches, beds, and clothes, washer and dryer, and refrigerator, dresser, tvs, aquarium; **2A107 Danille Clark** BR Set Queen, 2 TVS, DR set, 15 Totes, bags and boxes; **2A127 Valerie Robinson** kitchen set, Dresser, household items; **2A265 Michael Sibley** Boxes; **2A266 Sharava Green** household goods; **2A48 Steven D White** household; **2A99 Anthony Bias** household items; **2B12 Elisha Roberson** clothes and tv's; **2B15 Leonard A Pierce** household items; **2D131 Taylor Sharpe** Boxes, deep freezer, tv stand; **2D201 Barbara Crawford** clothes; **2D220 Billy Fluellen** household items; **2D235 Lakia Myers** household items; **2D263 Demetrius Wiles** Sectional comes apart, 10 small bags of clothing 1 queen bed. Dishwasher; **2D27 John Ellis** Bags, baby stuff, crib; **2D78 Marsha Seamon** Bags and boxes; **2E02 Rhonda Jones** Household items; **2E14 Denise Davis** Household goods; **2E42 Sheila Robinson** household goods; **3A109 Gary Chisom** Household Goods; **3A114 TiAira Neal** Household Good; **3A178B Donna Giddings** bedroom, living room and dining room; **3A200 Yolanda J Barnwell** household items; **3A22 Richard Robinson** books and personal items; **3A262 Vanay Joynes** Clothes, Boxes; **3B15 Jason Phillips** couch, love seat Tv, boxes, tapes; **3E32 Paul Satterthwaite** Gym equipment(bench, squat rack, weights), living room set(sectional couch, wine rack, coffee table, end table); **3L35 Melissa Smith** totes and bags of clothes & 1 TV; **3L45 Quidra Hartley** Clothes; **4A222 Zakiya Williams Watford** household items; **4A52 Eric Melton** Clothes & Electronics; **4B13 Erika Johnson** Household; **4E183 Mariyn Dovier** household goods

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

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5 Great things to do in St. Augustine, Florida

Known as Florida's Historic Coast, St. Augustine is one of the state's best-kept secrets.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

Many people consider either Orlando or Miami Florida's biggest tourist destination. But if waiting in long lines for theme park rides at Disney and the overstimulation of Miami's nightlife is not for you, you may want to consider St. Augustine for your next trip to the Sunshine State. This city has a lot to offer — here are five great things to do in St. Augustine, Florida.

St. George Street in the Colonial Quarter.

1 The St. Augustine Pirate and Treasure Museum

This swashbuckler's museum transports guests to a time when some of the world's most notorious pirates wreaked havoc on the high seas. Planning a tour at the Pirate and Treasure Museum is a great option for taking both your family and friends on an entertaining and educational journey back 300 years to the Golden Age of Piracy. Arghhh!
For tickets and tour info, visit: thepiratemuseum.com/

2 St. Augustine's Colonial Quarter

Founded in 1565 by Spanish explorers, St. Augustine is known as our country's oldest city. You can get a big slice of the city's history in the impossibly charming Colonial Quarter. By taking a Colonial Experience: Living History Tour, you will see re-creations of a simpler time with blacksmith and musket demonstrations. The Colonial Quarter is located on the popular pedestrian-only St. George Street, lined with restaurants, shops, and historic buildings.
For group tours, call: 904-342-2865.

Enjoy yourself on St. Augustine's beautiful beaches.

3 The World Golf Hall of Fame

You know, it takes a lot to book and plan a vacation. So why not give Dad a day to learn a little golfing history on this trip? At the World Golf Hall of Fame, he'll be able to test his skills at an 18-hole outdoor putting course as well as explore some of the world's most renowned courses with the Hall of Fame's interactive Golf Simulator. Once he's done that, he can check out the Hall's member locker room, including clubs and artifacts from 22 different Hall of Famers.
For tickets, visit: worldgolfhalloffame.org.

4 San Sebastian Winery

If you need to unwind after a long day of soaking up the sights, you can soak up some fantastic wine and live music at the San Sebastian Winery. Located on King Street, this award-winning winery is the perfect spot if you are looking for the sip-after-sip wine tasting experience or just to simply chill out to some live jazz with a glass of red or white.
For tasting information and music schedule, visit: sansebastianwinery.com.

5 Don't forget about the beach!

It's easy to get wrapped up in all of the great touristy activities that St. Augustine has to offer. But you should keep in mind that it is also home to some of the most pristine beaches in the entire state. So lather up with some suntan lotion, grab that book you've been meaning to read and carve out some time for some serious UV ray therapy by the ocean. It's your vacation. You deserved this.

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6 Ways to celebrate the royal wedding in London

If you happen to find yourself in London during the royal wedding, we have some great tips for you to enjoy the proceedings in style.

EMMA E. FORREST
letters@metro.us

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle will be tying the knot on May 19 at the Windsor Castle in London. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

If you've not received an invite and you're not one of the thousands of "commoners" set to join Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at the keenly anticipated royal wedding May 19, all is not lost. Here are six great ways to take in the royal celebrations.

1 Watch it in Windsor

No invite? No problem. You can still watch from the streets of Windsor, The couple will marry at midday in St. George's Chapel in the castle grounds before touring the streets of Windsor in a carriage. Visit the castle itself to learn about the royal couple's links to Windsor and the history of the Royal family or take a special "Royal Wedding" bus tour (*theoriginaltour.com*). You can also stay at the recently refurbished and elegant De Vere Beaumont Estate. *phcompany.com/de-vere/beaumont-estate*

2 Sail the Thames free

You can see London's site from the river for free on the day of the wedding — if you're called Harry or Meghan. Thames Clippers is offering a free River Roamer ticket for hop-on, hop-off travel between 17 piers on the River Thames to anyone sharing a first name with either of the royal couple. *mbnathamesclippers.com*

3 Peek in a palace

After tying the knot, our lovebirds are expected to move into Apartment 1A on the Kensington Palace estate in London. You can visit parts of Kensington Palace as well as see Harry's mum's wardrobe on show at its "Diana: Her Fashion Story" exhibition (*hrp.org.uk/kensington-palace/*). While you're at it, hit Buckingham Palace too. *royalcollection.org.uk/visit*

4 Visit royal London

London is full of historical sites, many of which have a strong connection to the royal family. Save money and time getting into the city's top royal spots including Kensington Palace, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and The Tower of London — as well as Windsor Castle — with The London Pass. *One-day London Pass from $92 per adult and $68 per child, londonpass.com*

Set sail on the River Thames free courtesy of the Thames Clippers.

5 Take tea like a royal

Treat your kids like royalty with a junior afternoon tea at The Milestone Hotel & Residences. The five-star hotel's Little Prince and Princess Afternoon Tea menu also includes kid-friendly items. *$34 per child, milestonehotel.com*

6 Go on a royal honeymoon

Royal-watchers are speculating that the newlyweds might head to Africa to recover from their mega-wedding. Harry's made no secret of his love for Namibia, and there are rumors that they'll do a safari from the brand-new luxury six-tent Hoanib Valley Camp in the desert of northwestern Namibia. It is the perfect location to take desert drives to track desert-adapted lions, elephants, and giraffes. *£500 per person per night including accommodation, meals, local drinks and daily activities, aardvarksafaris.co.uk*

Josh Adams ran for 3,201 yards and 20 touchdowns in three seasons at Notre Dame. GETTY IMAGES

UDFAs that can make Eagles roster

Three overlooked players that could make an impact in Philly.

LUKE MILLER
sports@metro.us

Four years ago, while scanning the Eagles incoming undrafted free agent class, we singled out tight end Trey Burton. We mentioned he'd thrown for 1,500 yards at Florida, and that Chip loved former quarterbacks. We mentioned he was a great special teamer. We did not predict he'd throw the most famous touchdown pass in Super Bowl LII.

But while this season became the swan song (in Philadelphia) of one of the Eagles most successful UDFA finds, it also saw the next gem appear: running back Corey Clement, who had 444 yards and six touchdowns during the regular season and torched New England for 100 receiving yards in the Super Bowl. His 55-yard catch-and-run setup Burton's touchdown throw.

So with all these contributions from UDFAs fresh in your mind, there's a new class to dream of big things from. Here are three of those players most likely to crack the Eagles roster this season.

1 Josh Adams

NFL.com had a sixth to seventh round grade on Adams, who ran for 3,201 yards and 20 touchdowns in three seasons at Notre Dame. He exploded for 1430 yards at 6.9 yards per carry during his junior season. Watch some highlight tape of Adams' 6-foot-2 frame bouncing through the secondary, and it's hard not to be reminded of LeGarrette Blount's work a season ago in Philadelphia. Adams isn't the same wrecking ball Blount was (though he's probably a bit faster - he had a 98 yard run in college), it just takes him awhile to get going. Once he does, it's hard to catch him from behind, and even harder to bring him down.

The Eagles are well-stocked at running back already with Clement, Jay Ajayi, and newly-re-signed Darren Sproles. They also have Donnel Pumphrey and Wendell Smallwood on the roster. Adams would have to beat out at least the latter two to have a shot at the roster, but based on last season, that's not out of the question. The Eagles already turned to an undrafted free agent once over their recent fourth and fifth round selections, and showed a willingness to carry five backs into the season to begin 2017.

2 Jeremy Reaves

Reaves was as productive as defenders come in college. As a senior, he was the Sun Belt Defensive Player of the Year after recording 104 tackles, 1.5 sacks, three interceptions, two forced fumbles, and three fumble recoveries. That's just a sample of a ballhawking college career that ended with eight total interceptions and eight fumble recoveries. He played corner and safety at South Alabama, giving him the versatility at the position the Eagles love.

With Jaylen Watkins gone and Corey Graham unsigned, it was expected the Eagles would pursue a backup safety in the draft. They didn't, but they went all in in undrafted free agency, and Reaves looks like the best of the bunch they've signed. They're understandably high on 2017 undrafted rookie Tre Sullivan, last seen terrorizing the NFL preseason, and Reaves is a hitter in the same mold.

3 Bruce Hector

There are not many interior pass rushers with the numbers Hector put up in his college career: 18 sacks over his final three seasons at USF. As a senior, he paired 13 tackles for loss with seven sacks. Hector is considered undersized for the position — at 6-foot-2, 296 pounds — and the Eagles' rotation-heavy 4-3 front seems like one of the best possible fits for him to land in.

Breaking through onto the roster in that front might not be as hard as you'd think, either. If Timmy Jernigan's surgery removes him from the equation when the season begins — once you get past Fletcher Cox, Haloti Ngata, and the odd interior cameo from Michael Bennett — there's not a lot of proven competition for Hector.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned self storage units will be sold at a public sale by competitive bidding, in their entirety to the highest bidder, on or after **5/22/18**to satisfy the lien of the Lessor, with Metro Storage LLC as managing agent for Lessor, for rental and other charges due from the undersigned. The said property has been stored and is located at the respective address below. The sale will be conducted under the guidance of Christopher Rosa (AU005857) on behalf of the facilities' management. Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on StorageStuff.Bid. The terms of the sale will be cash only to the highest bidder. A 10% buyer's premium will be charged per unit. All sales are final. Metro Self Storage LLC reserves the right to withdraw any or all units, partial or entire, from the sale at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted. All contents must be removed completely from the property within 48 hours or sooner.

Metro Self Storage 2240 Island Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19142 • 215-863-0560
Bidding will close on the website www.Storagestuff.bid on 5/22/2018 at 11:00 am.

Yvette Buggs 0004, Albert McCloud 0014, Said Nasraoui 0020, Dashiell Elliott 0062 MalikiaHyden 1204, Benito Johnson 1241, BaasonLigon 2132, Aminata Waritay Koroma 2160, Lesley Brown 2169, Valerie Robinson 3014, Gerry Victor 3086 Jerome Victor 3116, Dahmir Adams-Moore 3137

Metro Self Storage 1354 Hook Rd, Sharon Hill PA 19079 • 610-583-7867
Bidding will close on the website www.Storagestuff.bid on 5/22/2018 at 12:00pm.

Jovan Chaney 626B, Derrick Lewis 621A, James R Smith 527, Joseph Serencko 509 Richard Esposito 347, Mrs. Patricia A Holmes 220, Robert Goldsborough Sr 181 Ruth Kamanda 174, Katie Ciavarelli 140, Ericka Tillery 136, Frank Williams 121 Shari Bunche-Tucker 114

Metro Self Storage 4440 E Bristol Rd, Trevose, PA 19053 • 215-396-1110
Bidding will close on the website www.Storagestuff.bid on5/22/2018 at 1:00pm.

Shaun Brennan 1040, Kristen Kowal 2314, Robert Crosby 3053, Cynthia Ann Lauer 3067 Cynthia Ann McRobbie Lauer 3067, Donald Pederson 5020

Metro Self Storage 1145 Easton Road, Willow Grove, PA 19090 • 215-659-6065
Bidding will close on the website www.Storagestuff.bid on 5/22/2018 at 2:30pm.

Vernon Skinner 107, Vernon Skinner 112, James Vandegrift 8041

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James Harden and the Rockets pose the biggest threat that Golden State has had in the West in several years. GETTY IMAGES

Can Rockets halt Warriors NBA dynasty?

Houston is poised to dethrone Golden State in the Western Conference Finals.

MARK LELINWALLA
sports@metro.us

It's time to see if the Houston Rockets are up to the challenge when it counts the most — dethroning the defending NBA champion Golden State Warriors in the playoffs.

After taking two of three games from the Warriors during the regular season, the Rockets will see if the offseason addition of Chris Paul and home-court advantage through the playoffs makes a difference when they tip-off the Western Conference Finals with the defending champs on Monday night in Houston.

Despite the regular-season edge, the Rockets enter the best-of-seven series against the Warriors as the underdog, according to the Westgate SuperBook in Las Vegas. That being said, the same odds maker has Houston as a two-point favorite to win Game 1, as reported by ESPN.

Golden State seems completely unbothered about that, though. Winners of two of the past three league titles, the Warriors have heard all the chatter about Houston being specifically constructed to dethrone them and Rockets general manager Daryl Morey's obsession with defeating them.

But the time for talking is done.

"It's time to play," as Draymond Green told ESPN earlier in the week. "They have made it known that their team is built to beat us," Green said. "Kind of their, like you said, obsession or whatever you want to call it — it is what it is. Like I've said before, all that stuff is cool. Obviously, you want to build your team to beat the defending champs because that's usually how you have to go to win a championship. So, all understandable. That stuff has been said for about a year now. It's time to play."

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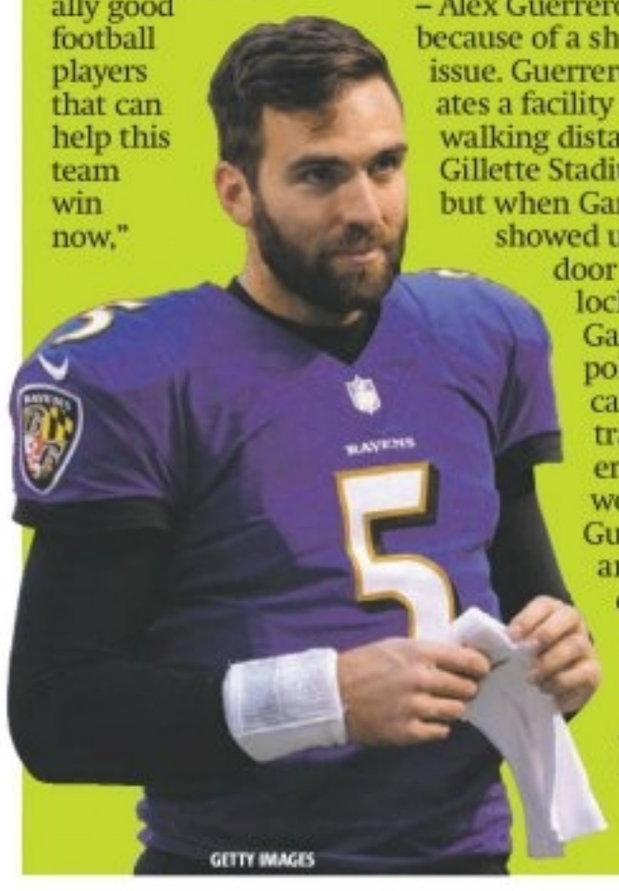
WHINY OLD QBS

The "new guy replaces old guy" narrative has been around as long as organized sports has been a thing, but three of the NFL's elder statesmen at quarterback can't seem to handle it.

Ben Roethlisberger recently whined about the Steelers having drafted quarterback Mason Rudolph despite having flirted with retirement, and this week it was revealed that Ravens QB Joe Flacco has not spoken to Ravens first-round draft pick (and fellow QB) Lamar Jackson. In fact, Flacco has declined all media requests since the draft.

Here is what Big Ben had to say about the situation in Pittsburgh.

"Maybe in the third round, you know you can get some really good football players that can help this team win now,"


GETTY IMAGES

Roethlisberger told something called the Cook and Poni Show. "I don't know him personally, but I'm sure he's a great kid. Um, I just don't know how backing up or being a third … well, I don't know where he's going to fall on the depth chart … helps us win now. But you know, that's not my decision to make, that's on the coaches and GM and all those kind of things. If they think he can help our team so be it, but I was a little surprised."

Love that competitive spirit, Ben!

Even Tom Brady was reportedly not too keen on former backup Jimmy Garoppolo, as ESPN reported in December that Garoppolo set up an appointment with Brady's quack doctor – Alex Guerrero – because of a shoulder issue. Guerrero operates a facility within walking distance to Gillette Stadium, but when Garoppolo showed up at the door he was locked out. Garoppolo even called trainers that work for Guerrero and they did not answer the phone, according to the report.

WOULD THUNDER TRADE WESTBROOK?

Frustration has set in around the Oklahoma City Thunder franchise as the team's acquisitions of Paul George and Carmelo Anthony last summer only increased their win total by one game from the previous year. The conventional wisdom says that George and Carmelo simply weren't the right pieces to place next to last year's MVP, Russell Westbrook. That said, we are in an NBA era that craps all over conventional wisdom.

"There is an increasing number of people around the league who think the Thunder should look at trading Russell Westbrook," ESPN's Zach Lowe said on his podcast. "To be clear – this is not Thunder sources but just spit-balling ideas with teams around the league that there's a number of people that have heard that it's time for something to change there. And my reaction to that is – no one should touch that contract with a 10-foot pole."

Indeed, Westbrook's contract is monstrous – as in, second largest in the NBA. Westbrook signed a five-year, $205 million extension with OKC last September.

Westbrook, a native of Long Beach, California, had been linked to the Lakers in trade and free agency rumors for years before signing the massive deal.

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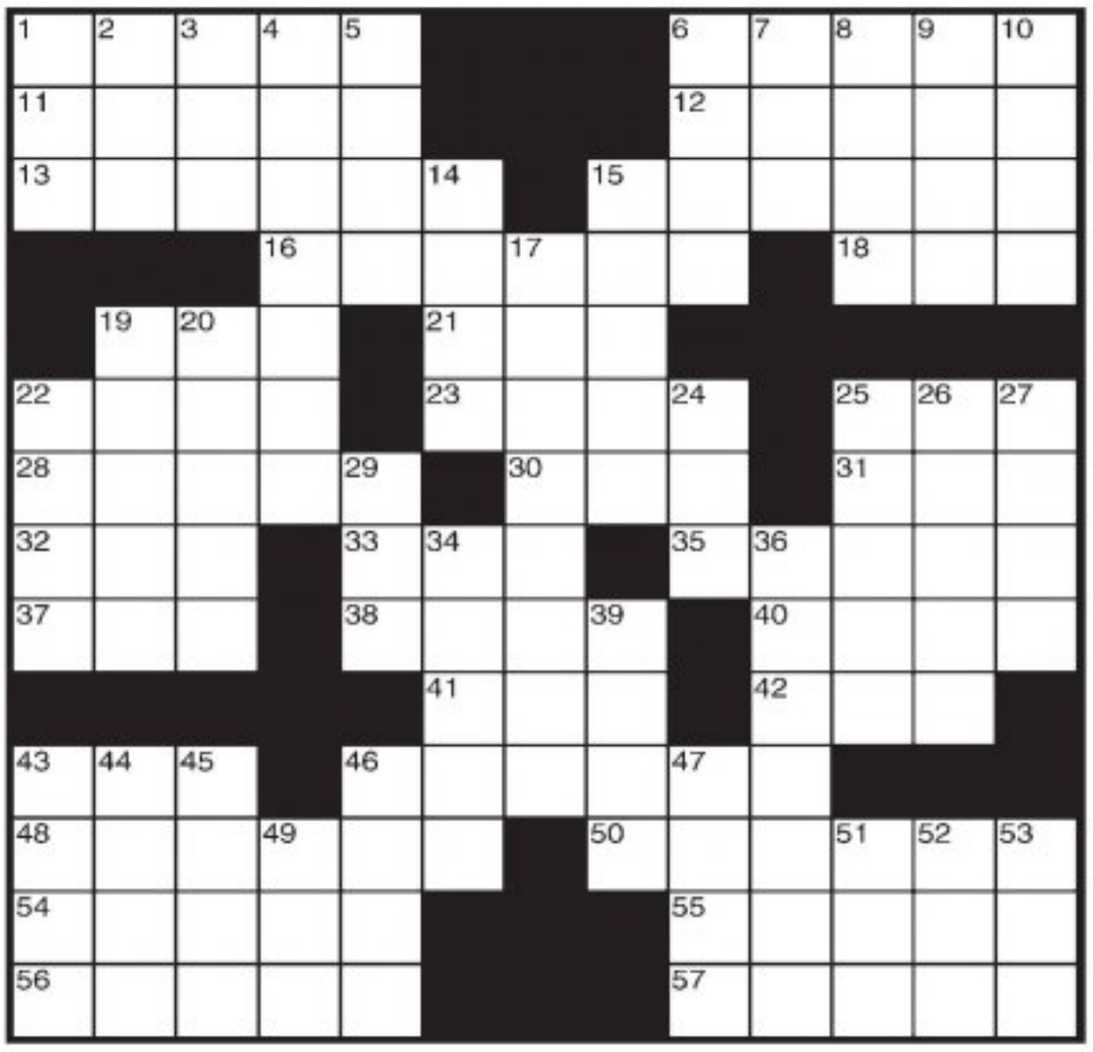

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ACROSS
1 Tall and lanky
6 Firms up
11 D-Day beach
12 Inbox filler
13 Jaime Sommersfor one
15 Plaster
16 Junk food
18 Barely scrape by
19 Wrestler's pad
21 Chaotic place
22 Gloomy atmosphere
23 Panache 25 Skippy rival
28 Gives a thumbs-up
30 Flamenco shout
31 Hail, to Caesar
32 Rare mineral
33 Fortify
35 Hunting knife
37 Pizarro's quest
38 Jeer at
40 Comb producers
41 Through
42 Bradley and Sneed
43 Visibly embarrassed
46 Per annum
48 Aftershock
50 Rackets
54 Gauguin's prop
55 No-see-ums
56 Offend the nostrils
57 Nash of humorous poems

DOWN
1 Transport for Sinbad
2 Singer -- Grant
3 Seize suddenly
4 Like a haunted house
5 It's spun
6 Hot tub inlets
7 Grounded Aussie
8 Tighten a corset
9 Beat soundly
10 -- -eyed
14 Watch the stars
15 "Bottoms up!"
17 Bogota's land
19 Productive one
20 Crockett's last stand
22 Walt Kelly strip
24 Bird beak
25 Chewed the fat
26 Dorm coverers
27 Service charges
29 Droop
34 "A -- Runs Through It"
36 Doing as told
39 Get by effort
43 Hwys.
44 Latin I verb
45 Hubby of Lucy
46 Egg core
47 Corporate symbol
49 Uncles and brothers
51 Heartrending
52 When Paris sizzles
53 9-digit no.

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easy

			8	5				1
					2	3	7	
	2	4					9	8
		5		6			2	
	7	9				4	1	
	4			3		6		
5	6					7	3	
	8	2	6					
4				2	7			

hard

		2	5	4			6	
8	4				6			
					2		4	5
	3		8				2	6
4								7
5	2				1		8	
6	1		2					
			6				7	4
	9			8	5	6		

metro.us/games

PAR SCORE 110-120

E1	T1	L1	S1	L1	E1	P3	1st Letter Double
R1	D2	R1	I1	Y4	I1	T1	5th Letter Triple
C3	L1	H4	Y4	Y4	H4	N1	Double Word Score
H4	R1	A1	E1	E1	T1	W4	

RACK 1
RACK 2
RACK 3
RACK 4

NEW
TURN BACK TO PAGE 14 FOR HOROSCOPES

Yesterday's Scrabble answers.

V4 O1 L1 U1 M3 E1	RACK 1 =	11
W4 E1 I1 G2 H4 S1	RACK 2 =	13
S1 U1 N1 L1 E1 S1 S1	RACK 3 =	64
G2 A1 R1 B3 A1 G2 E1	RACK 4 =	83
PAR SCORE 110-120	JUDD'S TOTAL	171

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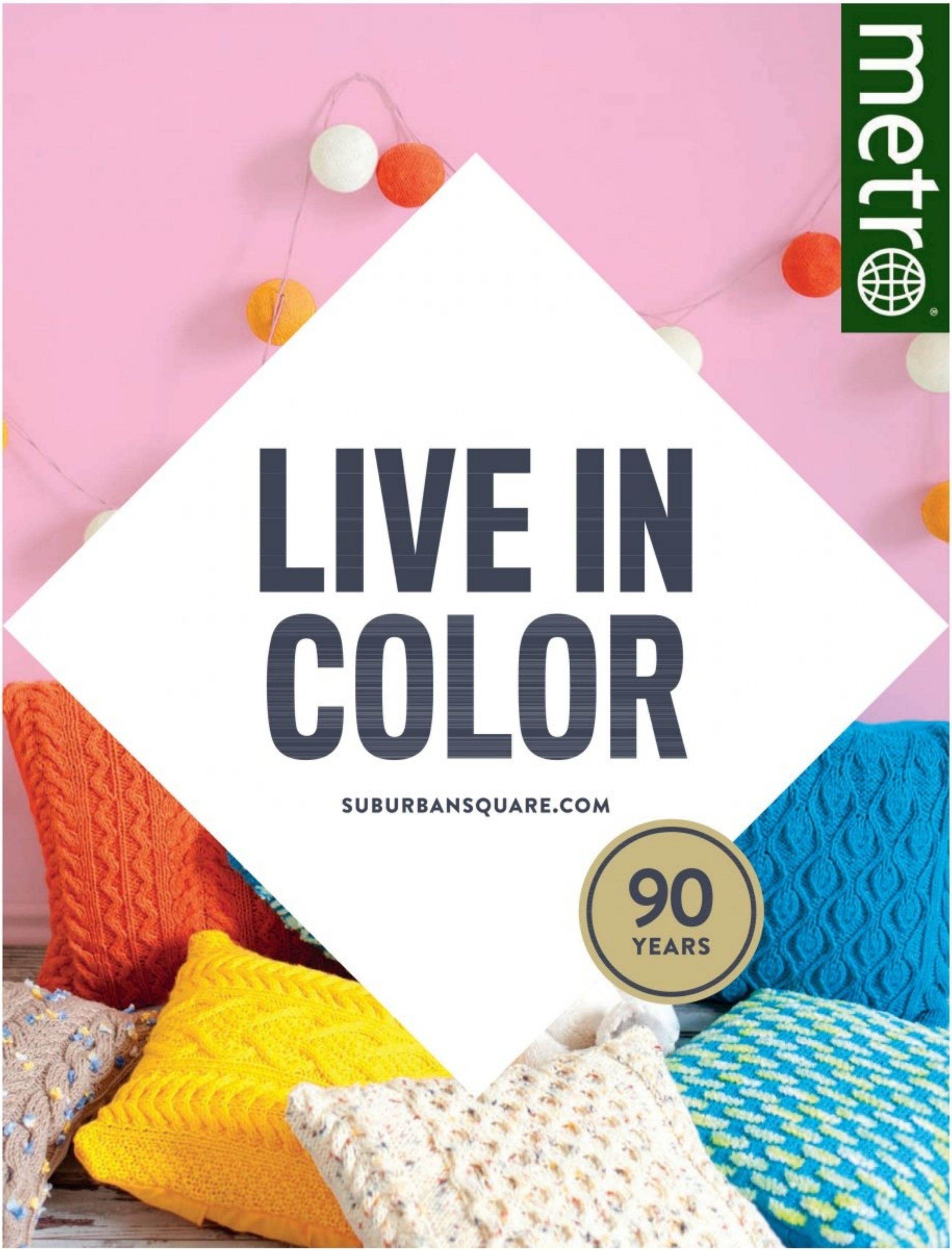
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FEEL RED HOT

GO GREEN

BE TRUE BLUE

SUBURBANSQUARE.COM | Coulter Ave. & Anderson Ave. | Ardmore, PA

Join us to run, jog, or walk for a good cause at the **Ardmore Rotary 5K Run & Walk.**

May 20 at 8:30am

Anthony Vince Nail Spa
Apple
Clarks
Dandelion
Drybar
Govberg Jewelers
Juice Press (Coming Soon)
Kendra Scott
Kitchen Kapers
Life Time Athletic
Lilly Pulitzer
Oath Pizza (Coming Soon)
Paper Source
The Paperia
Pearle Vision Center
SEE Eyewear
SoulCycle
Sunglass Hut
Ten Thousand Villages
Wells Fargo
west elm
...and more!

Just a quick trip to the Ardmore SEPTA Station | Coulter Ave. & Anderson Ave. | Ardmore, PA